

2004 AIME BUILDING LEVEL SURVEY: INDIANA EXPENDITURES COMPARED TO NATIONAL AVERAGES

by Daniel Callison & Naomi Patterson



FUNDING AND EXPENDITURES

The Association for Indiana Media Educators (AIME) surveyed Indiana School Library Media Specialists in 2004 concerning expenditures for the Library Media Center on their campus. AIME financed a portion of the survey which was sent to all Indiana public schools. Of the 561 School Library Media Specialists (SLMS) responding to the AIME Building Survey, 306 were at elementary schools, 98 were at middle/junior high schools and 157 were at high schools. Data was collected to measure Indiana against data collected in 1992 and against national average data reported in *School Library Journal* in 2002.

Data on elementary schools was reported by a variety of individuals serving as the manager of the local school library collection, but all middle/junior high schools and high schools represented in this sample employed at least one full-time certified SLMS. Of the responses representing elementary schools, 102 (33%) were full-time certified SLMS, 139 (46%) were part-time certified SLMS, and 65 (21%) were full- or part-time clerical with no certified SLMS. A majority of the Indiana elementary schools reported in this sample do not have the services of a full-time SLMS serving the needs of students and teachers in a single building without dividing such services among several buildings.

The average student enrollment per school of those responding was 1,077 per high school and 795 per middle/junior high school. In elementary schools with a full-time SLMS, the average enrollment was 491, those schools with a part-time SLMS averaged 386 students, and schools with non-certified personnel in the Library Media Center reported average enrollment of 416.

The average number of classroom teachers per school for responding elementary schools was 20, middle/junior high schools 46, and senior high schools 66. The average number of teachers per school for all those responding was 44.

LOCAL DISTRICT FUNDING

The local district funding for the School Library Media Center (SLMC) in Indiana schools at all grade

levels is dramatically lower than the national average. Local district funding for the SLMC in Indiana elementary schools is 36% to 56% below the national average per student (see charts 1 and 2). Indiana's middle/junior high schools funding is 32% below the national average per student (see charts 3 and 4). Most dramatically, funding for Indiana high schools is 57% below the national average per student (see charts 5 and 6). Local district funds make up the majority of funding for School Library Media Centers. SLMCs at all grade levels spend half or more of their local district funds on books (see charts 7 and 8).

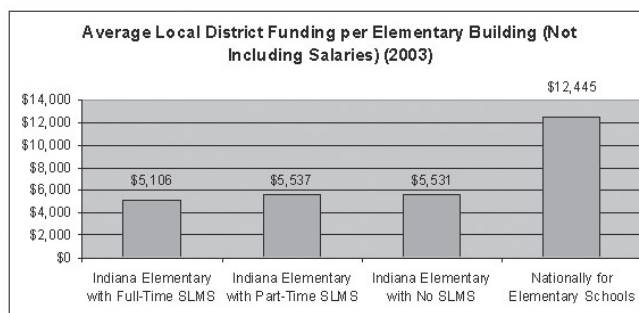


Chart 1

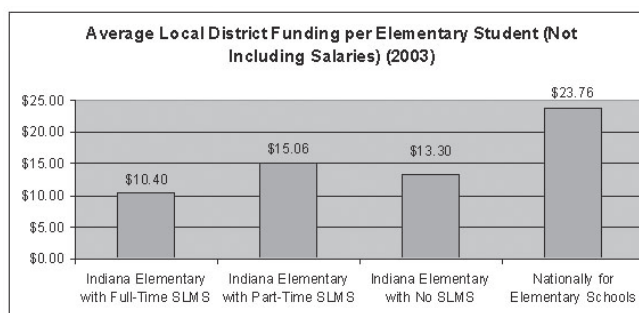


Chart 2

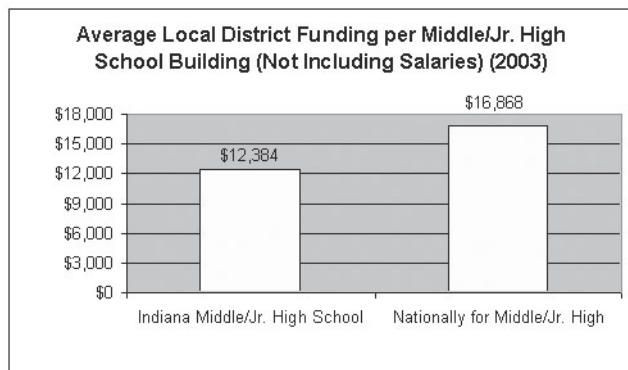


Chart 3

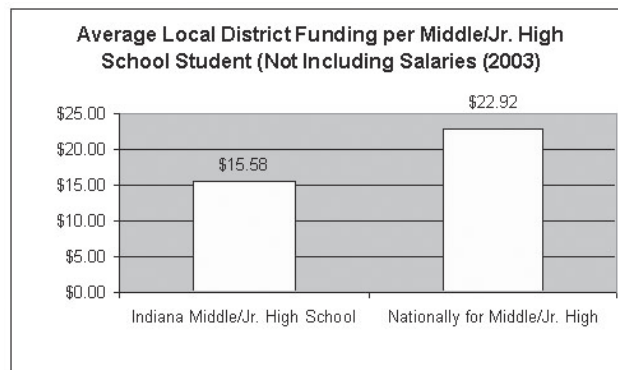


Chart 4

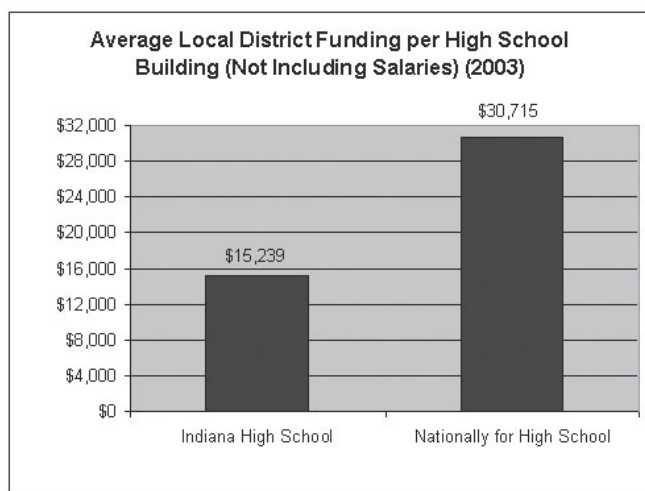


Chart 5

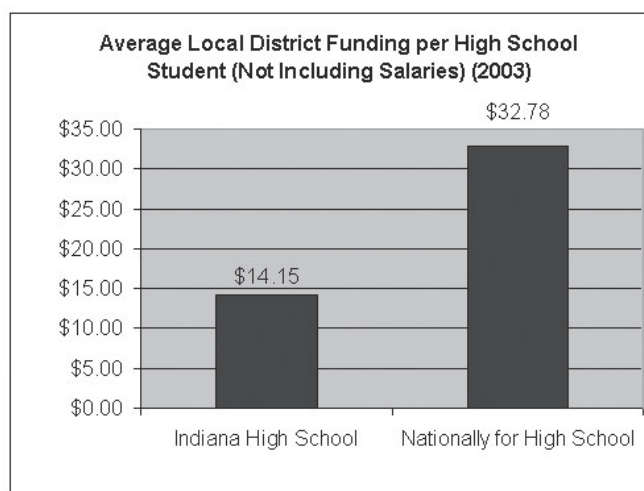


Chart 6

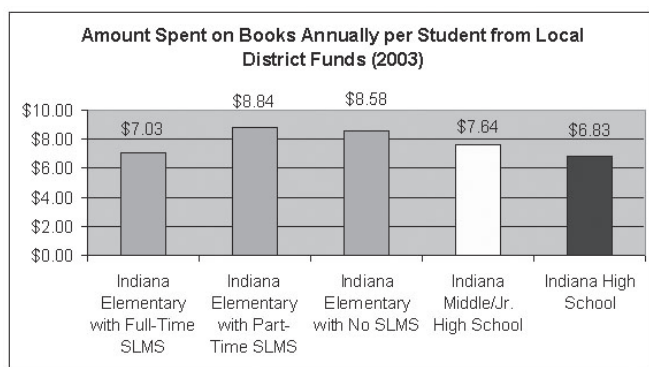


Chart 7

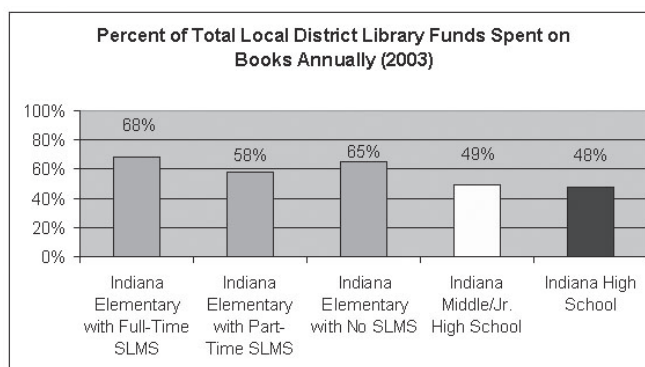


Chart 8

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

School Library Media Centers also receive federal funding (see charts 9 and 10), and much more substantial federal funding is directed toward the school media center in elementary buildings where there is either a full-time or part-time professional SLMS. Often, over 70% of the federal funding that could support the school library media program is diverted to other programs in the elementary school when a professional school library media specialist is not employed to serve the building. Additionally, SLMCs receive monetary gifts from sources such as the school's PTA and private or memorial donations. Elementary schools are the biggest recipients of these gifts (see charts 11 and 12)

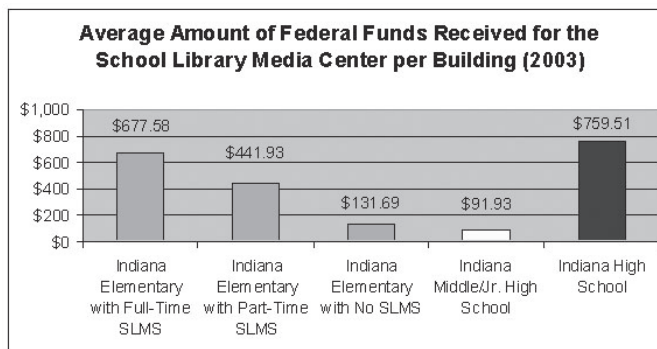


Chart 9

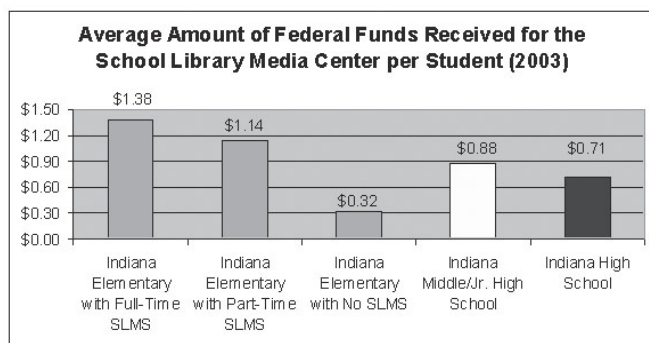


Chart 10

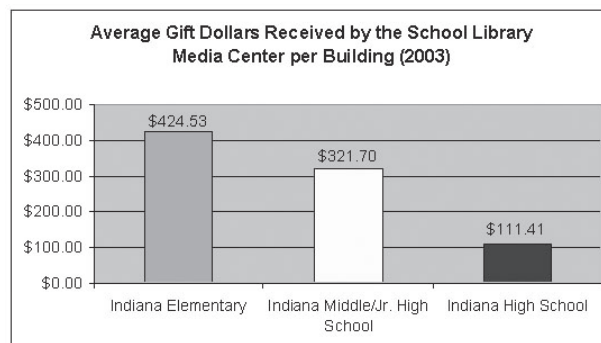


Chart 11

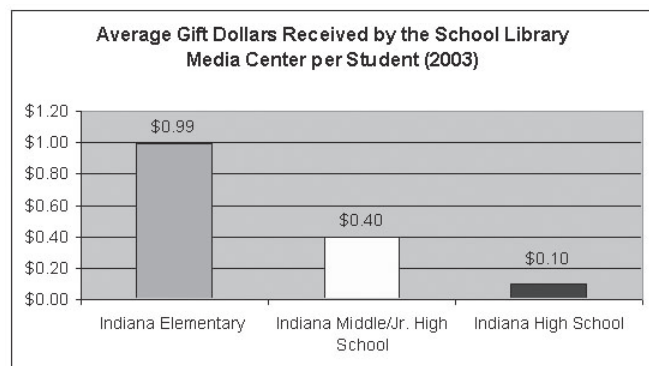


Chart 12

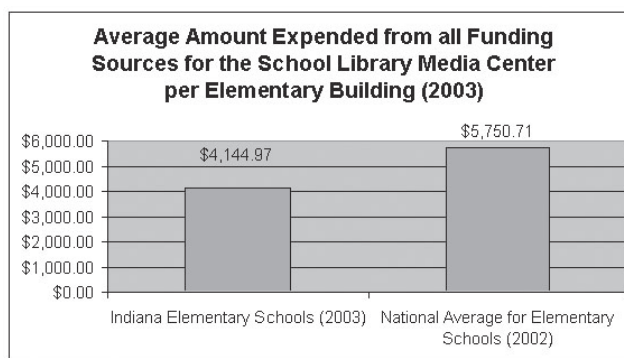


Chart 13

EXPENDITURES FROM ALL FUNDING SOURCES

Indiana elementary schools are 13% below the national average per student on expenditures for books (see chart 13 and 14). Likewise, Indiana's middle/junior high schools are 25% below the national per student on expenditures for books (see chart 15 and 16). Indiana's high schools are 52% below the national average per student expenditures for books (see chart 17 and 18). Funding from all sources that was used to purchase books on tape is illustrated in charts 19 and 20.

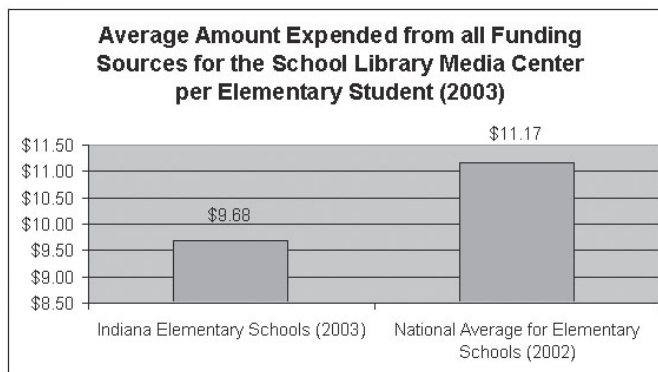


Chart 14

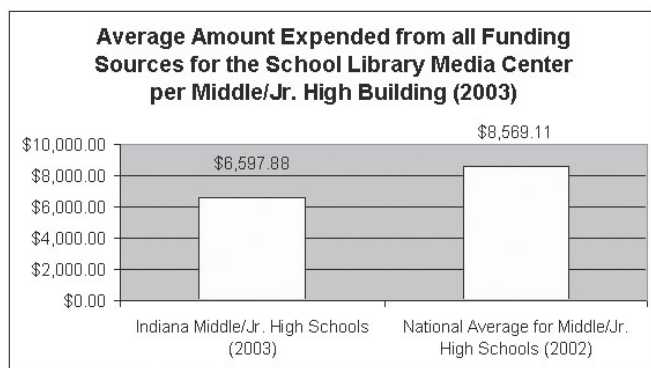


Chart 15

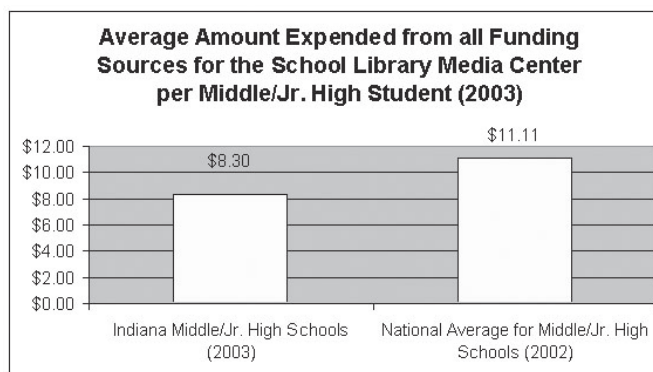


Chart 16

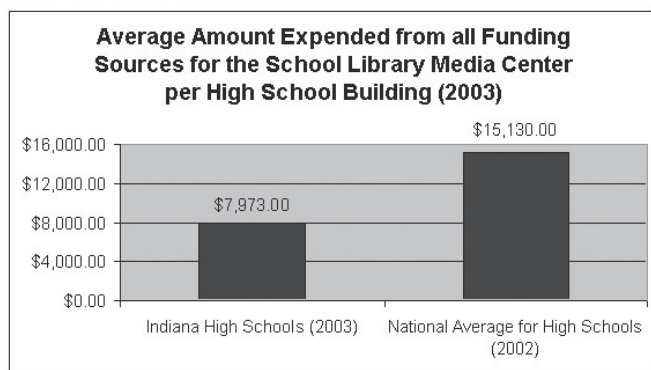


Chart 17

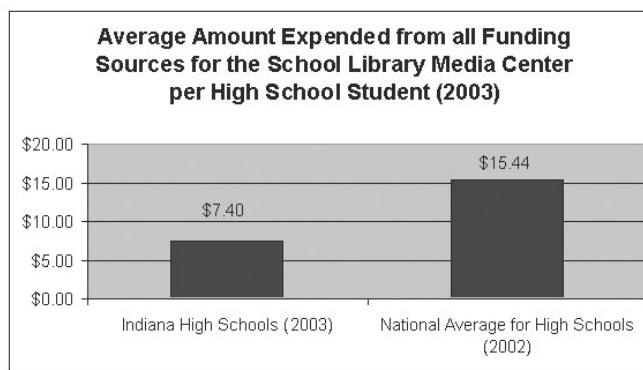


Chart 18

EXPENDITURES FOR NONPRINT MATERIALS

Indiana elementary schools are 22% below the national average spent per student for expenditures for print magazines and newspapers. Indiana middle/junior high schools are 21% below the national average per student and Indiana's high schools are 31% below the national average spent per student (see charts 21 and 22).

Spending for nonprint resources, including VHS, DVD, and software in Indiana elementary schools is 32% below the national average per student. Indiana middle/junior high schools are 44% above the national average in spending per student. High schools in Indiana are 39% below the national average in spending per student (see charts 23 and 24).

Indiana middle/junior high schools are 78% below the national average in spending per student for subscriptions for online resources and indexes (CD ROM and Internet). Indiana's high schools are 68% below the national average in spending per student for subscriptions for online resources and indexes (see charts 25 and 26).

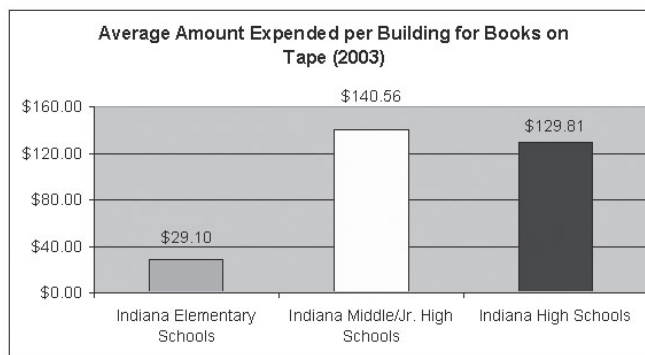


Chart 19

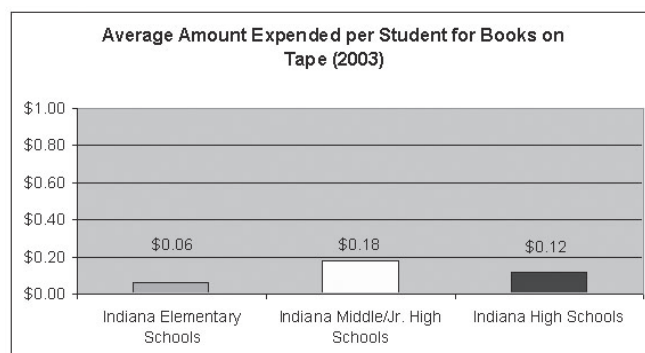


Chart 20

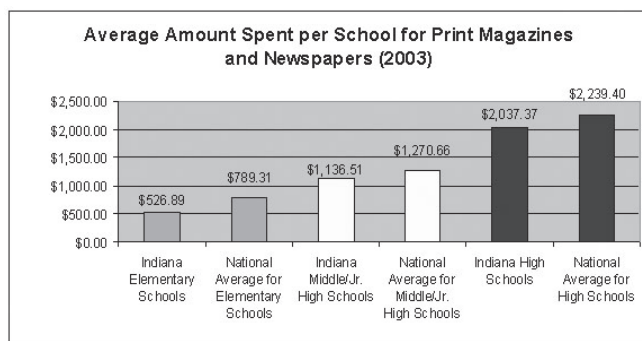


Chart 21

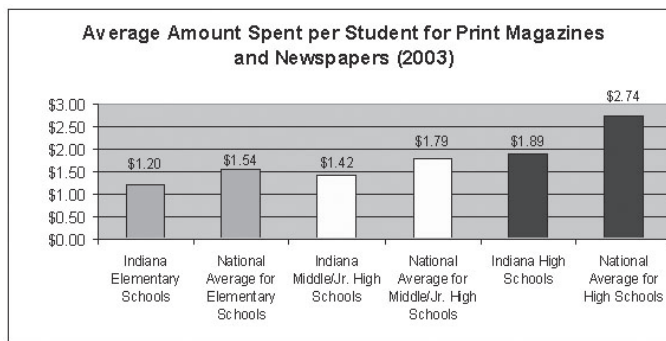


Chart 22

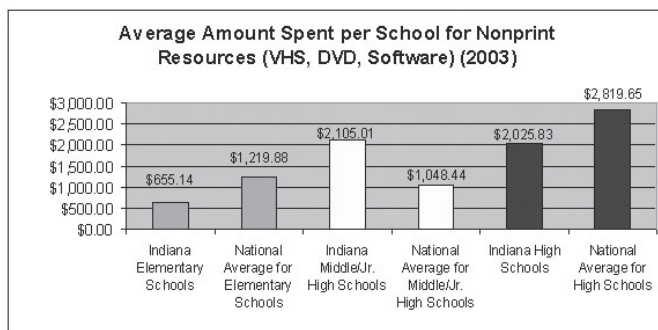


Chart 23

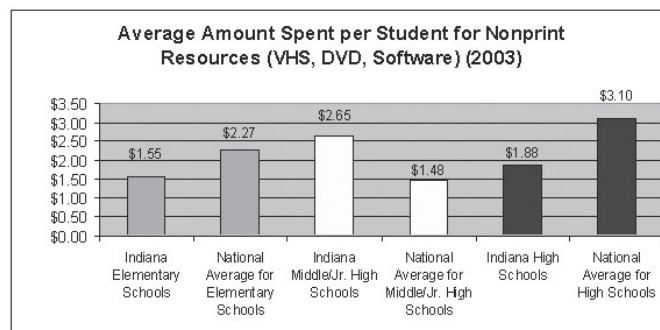


Chart 24

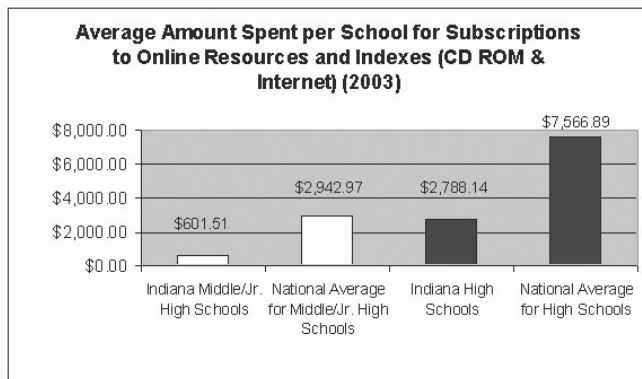


Chart 25

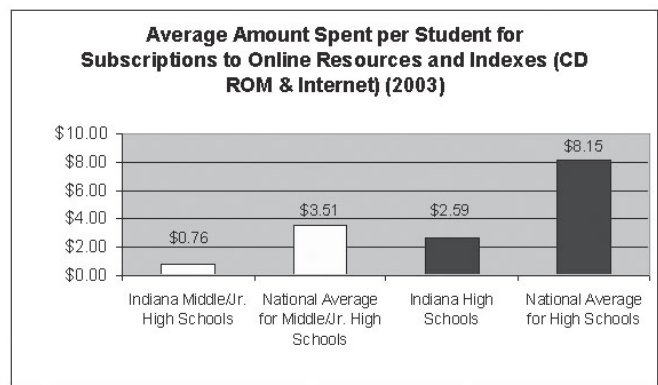


Chart 26

EXPENDITURES FOR PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES

Annual expenditures for professional resources, including journals, books, teaching guides, and standards are illustrated per building, per students, and per teachers, in charts 27, 28, and 29.

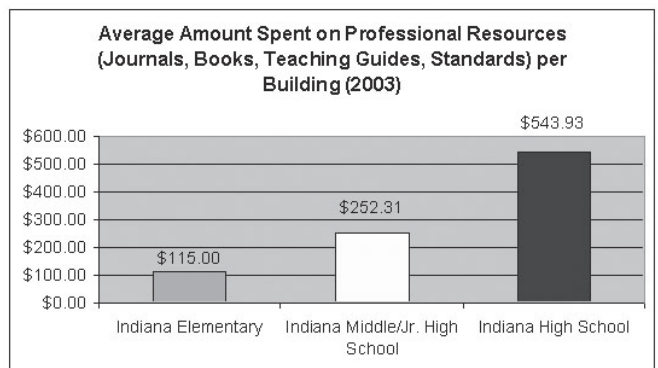


Chart 27

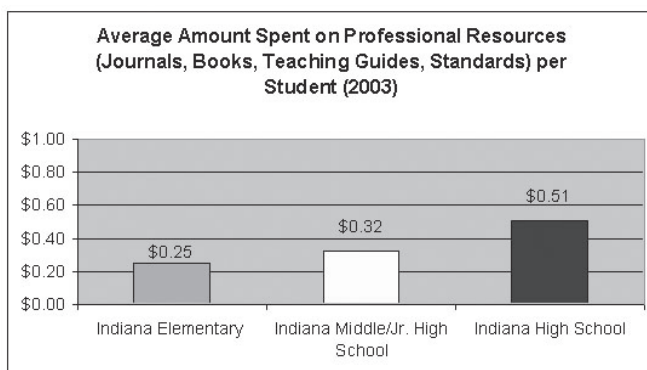


Chart 28

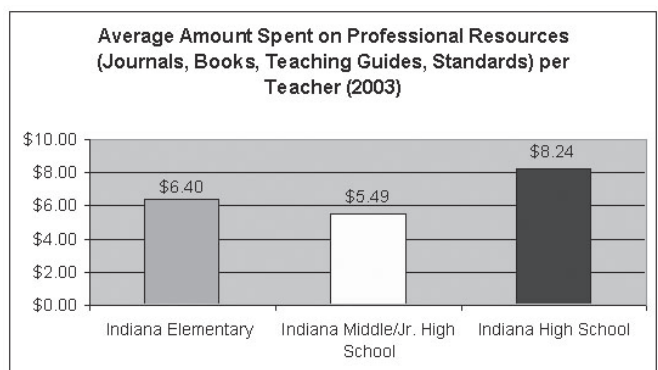


Chart 29

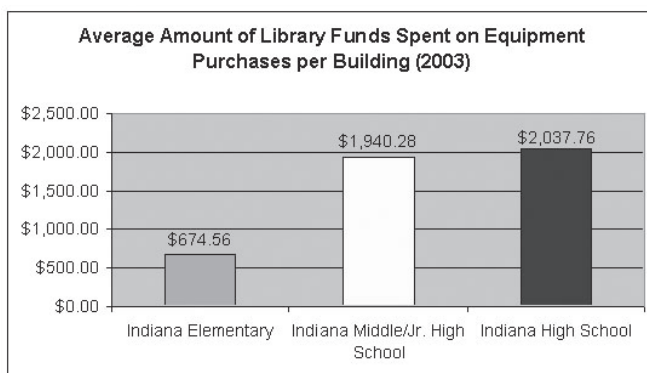


Chart 30

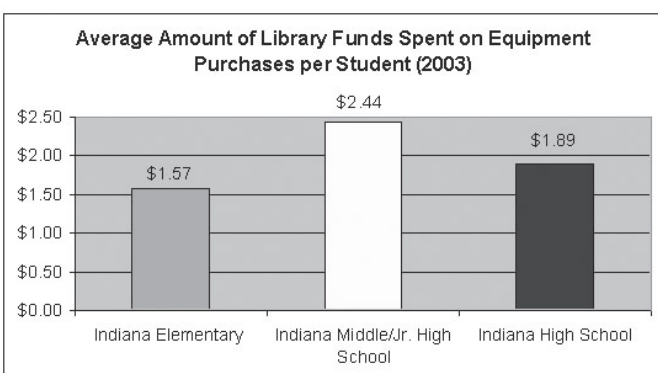


Chart 31

EXPENDITURES FOR EQUIPMENT AND REPAIR

Equipment purchases from library funds are illustrated per building and per student in charts 30 and 31. Library funds are also used for equipment repair, as illustrated in charts 32 and 33.

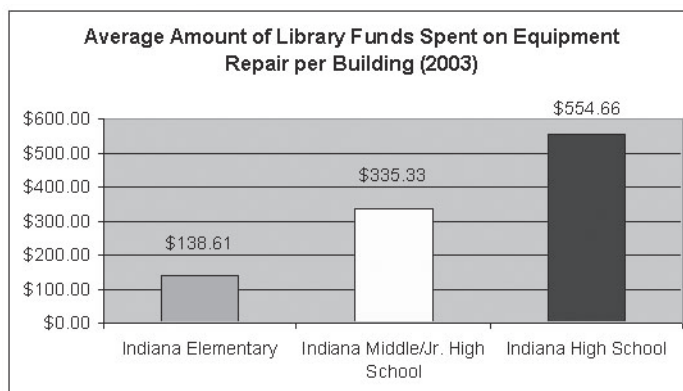


Chart 32

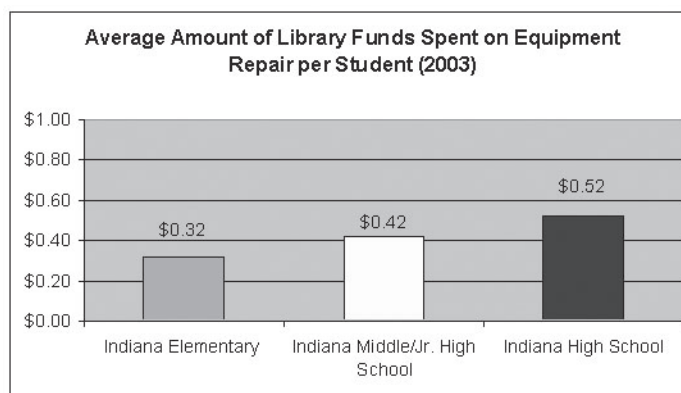


Chart 33

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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